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AVENELYNE
™
ROSELL '99
TANYA RICH

AWESOME

AVENGELYNE

™

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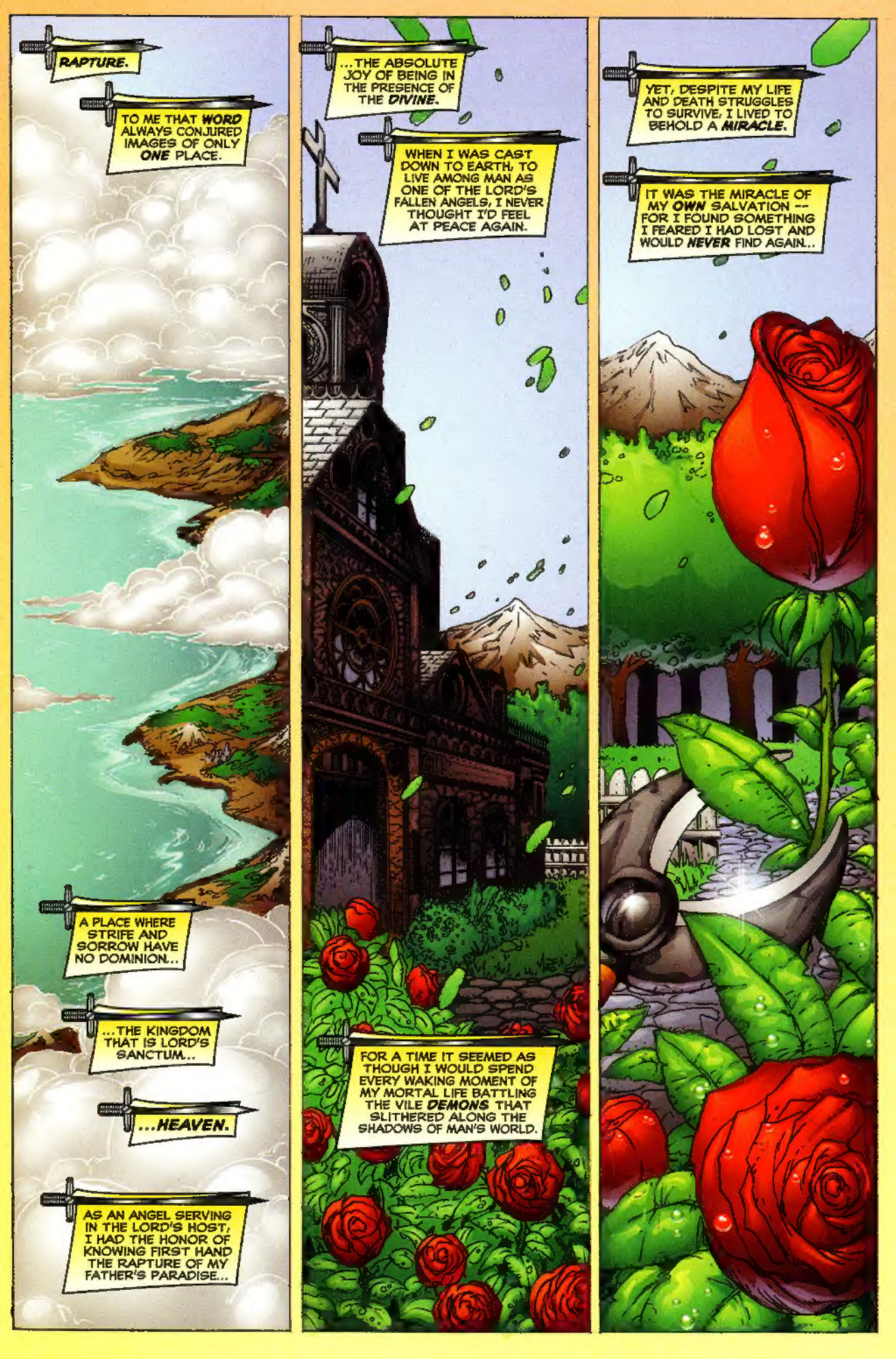

RAPTURE.
TO ME THAT WORD ALWAYS CONJURED IMAGES OF ONLY ONE PLACE.
A PLACE WHERE STRIFE AND SORROW HAVE NO DOMINION..
...THE KINGDOM THAT IS LORD'S SANCTUM...
...HEAVEN.
AS AN ANGEL SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOST, I HAD THE HONOR OF KNOWING FIRST HAND THE RAPTURE OF MY FATHER'S PARADISE...
...THE ABSOLUTE JOY OF BEING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE DIVINE.
WHEN I WAS CAST DOWN TO EARTH, TO LIVE AMONG MAN AS ONE OF THE LORD'S FALLEN ANGELS, I NEVER THOUGHT I'D FEEL AT PEACE AGAIN.
FOR A TIME IT SEEMED AS THOUGH I WOULD SPEND EVERY WAKING MOMENT OF MY MORTAL LIFE BATTLING THE VILE DEMONS THAT SLITHERED ALONG THE SHADOWS OF MAN'S WORLD.
YET, DESPITE MY LIFE AND DEATH STRUGGLES TO SURVIVE, I LIVED TO BEHOLD A MIRACLE.
IT WAS THE MIRACLE OF MY OWN SALVATION -- FOR I FOUND SOMETHING I FEARED I HAD LOST AND WOULD NEVER FIND AGAIN...

SERENITY.

WITH THE HELP OF MY FRIEND, **FATHER PETER CLIFTON,** I FLED NEW YORK CITY AND SOUGHT REFUGE IN THE NATURAL WORLD MY HEAVENLY FATHER CREATED.

THIS WAS THE REAL EARTH -- THE WORLD HE INTENDED FOR MANKIND TO OCCUPY -- QUITE UNLIKE THE CONCRETE LABYRINTHS HUMANITY HAD BUILT FOR THEMSELVES.

A SIMPLE CHURCH AND THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE WERE THE CLOSEST THING TO HEAVEN I HAD EXPERIENCED SINCE MY BANISHMENT.

AND FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE BEING CAST OUT... I WAS TRULY *HAPPY.*

THEN AS SUDDENLY AS I HAD FOUND THIS CONTENTMENT...

Huh?!

...IT WAS TAKEN FROM ME.

ONE AFTERNOON, I SENSED A *POWERFUL* AND FOREBODING PRESENCE IN MY GARDEN. FEARING I HAD BEEN *FOUND* BY THE *DEMONS,* I SUMMONED THE *SWORD OF THE SPIRIT*...

... AN ABILITY THE HEAVENLY FATHER SAW FIT TO RETURN TO ME AFTER A NEAR DEATH BATTLE WITH THE DEMON *LORD B'LIALE.**

DEMON -- I WARN YOU -- !

I AM NOT A DEMON, *AVENGELYNE.* I AM A *FRIEND.*

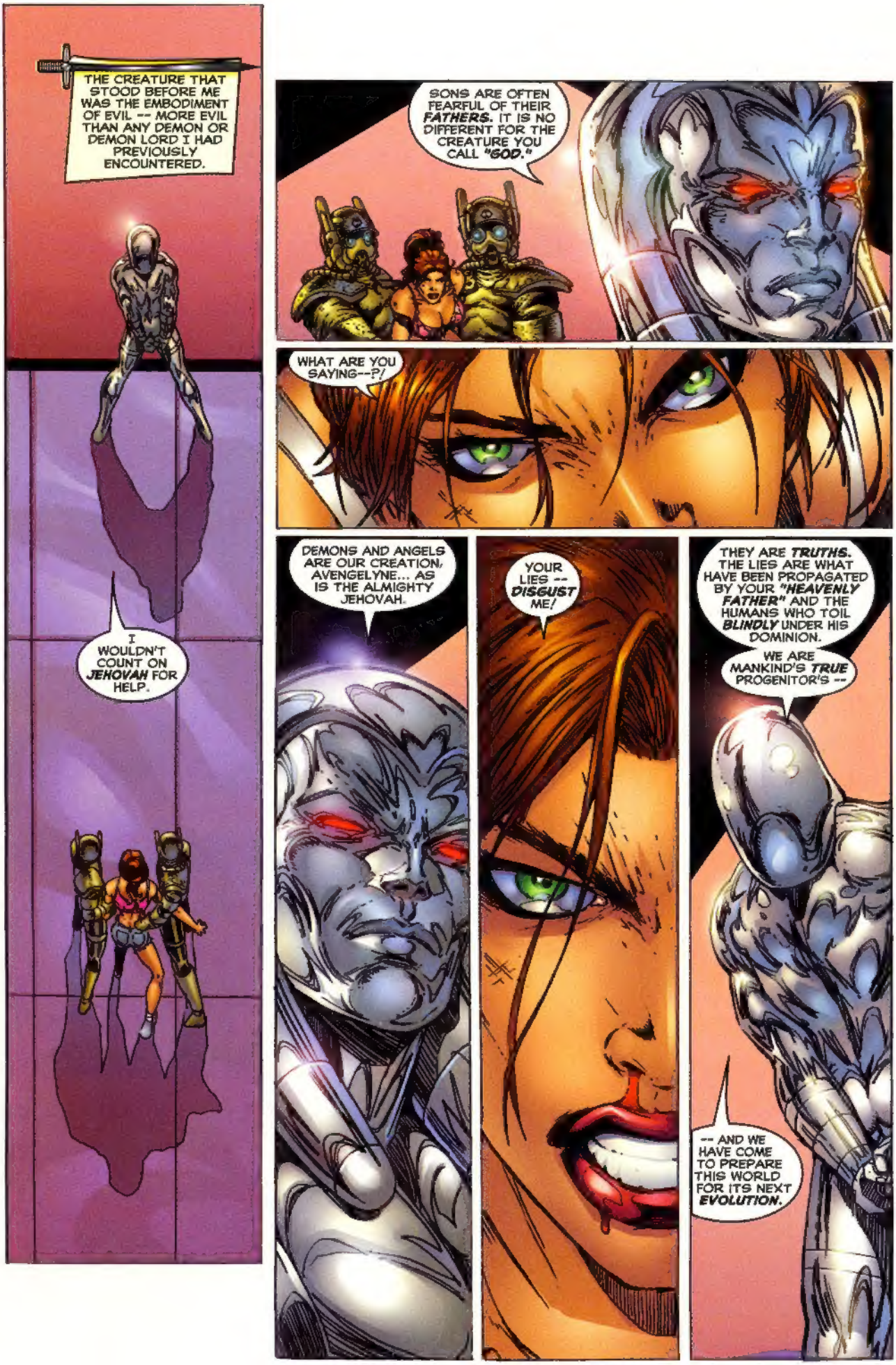
* A yet to be chronicled story from Avangelyne's "Missing Years."

I HAVE HAD PEOPLE TELL ME THAT *BEFORE* --

ONLY TO BE BETRAYED!
I AM NOT LIKE THOSE OTHERS
BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO PROVE MYSELF -- THEY'LL BE COMING FOR YOU SOON. JUST LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY THEN DECIDE FOR YOURSELF.
GO ON.
EVERYTHING YOU KNOW, AVENGELYNE... EVERYTHING YOU THINK YOU KNOW...
... IS A LIE.
WHAT?!
HUMANITY IS DOOMED, AVENGELYNE. A SEQUENCE OF EVENTS HAS BEEN INITIATED --
-- AND WHEN THEY ARE COMPLETED THE HUMAN RACE AS IT IS NOW WILL CEASE TO EXIST.
YOU MUST HELP THEM, AVENGELYNE. IT IS THE REASON YOU ARE HERE -- THE TRUTH BEHIND THE LIE OF YOUR EXILE FROM HEAVEN.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
YOU WERE NOT BANISHED, ANGEL... YOU WERE SEEDED ON THIS WORLD.
AND NOW IS THE TIME OF THE HARVEST.

SMACK
AND WITH ONLY THOSE FEW WORDS SPOKEN BETWEEN US, THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER TURNED AND DISAPPEARED.
I TRIED TO MAKE SENSE OF HIS WARNING. I PRAYED TO MY HEAVENLY FATHER FOR UNDERSTANDING, BUT NO EPIPHANY WAS AT HAND.
MONTHS PASSED -- AND I SOON FORGOT ABOUT THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER AND HIS GRIM WARNINGS FOR THE FUTURE.
BUT THE FUTURE, LIKE THE SETTING SUN, WOULD NOT BE IGNORED.
I WILL AVENGE THOSE YOUR EXECUTIONERS SLAUGHTERED AT THE CHURCH TODAY --
-- DO YOU HEAR ME, LORD SHARPE?!
I SUGGEST THAT YOU REFRAIN FROM FURTHER ACTS OF DEFIANCE, ANGEL. I KNOW THAT YOU ARE TEN TIMES STRONGER THAN THE AVERAGE HUMAN...
...BUT I HAVE DEVISED TORTURES THAT WOULD TEST EVEN THE LIMITS OF YOUR ENDURANCE.
IF YOU'RE SO EAGER FOR MY BLOOD -- WHY CAPTURE ME? WHY NOT JUST KILL ME, DEMON?!
"DEMON?" YOU SHOULD BE SO LUCKY.
YOU ARE IN THE PRESENCE OF A SPECIES WHOSE POWER AND MACHINATIONS CANNOT BE COMPARED TO THE CRETINS THAT INHABIT THE NETHERWORLD OF PANDEMONIUM.
AS YOU WILL SOON DISCOVER.

WHOEVER YOU ARE -- JEHOVAH WILL STOP YOU!


THE CREATURE THAT STOOD BEFORE ME WAS THE EMBODIMENT OF EVIL -- MORE EVIL THAN ANY DEMON OR DEMON LORD I HAD PREVIOUSLY ENCOUNTERED.
I WOULDN'T COUNT ON JEHOVAH FOR HELP.
SONS ARE OFTEN FEARFUL OF THEIR FATHERS. IT IS NO DIFFERENT FOR THE CREATURE YOU CALL "GOD."
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING--?!
DEMONS AND ANGELS ARE OUR CREATION, AVENGELYNE... AS IS THE ALMIGHTY JEHOVAH.
YOUR LIES -- DISGUST ME!
THEY ARE TRUTHS. THE LIES ARE WHAT HAVE BEEN PROPAGATED BY YOUR "HEAVENLY FATHER" AND THE HUMANS WHO TOIL BLINDLY UNDER HIS DOMINION.
WE ARE MANKIND'S TRUE PROGENITOR'S --
-- AND WE HAVE COME TO PREPARE THIS WORLD FOR ITS NEXT EVOLUTION.

WE PLANTED THE SEEDS OF HUMANITY IN EDEN, NOT JEHOVAH.

AFTER OUR CROP BEGAN TO FLOURISH, WE APPEARED ON OCCASION -- TO TEND TO ITS NEEDS.

"IT WAS WE WHO GAVE THEM THE LAWS BY WHICH TO GOVERN THEMSELVES...

"...THAT FATEFUL DAY ON *Mt. SINAI.*

"A HUMAN NAMED *MOSES* WAS OUR APOSTLE.

"THE EDICTS WE GAVE HIM WERE SIMPLE.

"AS WAS THE GUISE WE ASSUMED FOR THE DAY OF CONTACT."

WE HAD GIVEN HUMANITY THE INSTINCT TO SURVIVE, BUT THESE ANIMAL URGES WOULD HAVE APOCALYPTIC CONSEQUENCES UNLESS WE GAVE OUR CREATION RULES OF CONDUCT.
WE NEEDED HUMANITY TO SURVIVE LONG ENOUGH TO REALIZE IT'S FULL POTENTIAL.
I BELIEVE YOU KNOW THE REST
"SO MOSES WENT DOWN TO THE PEOPLE AND SPOKE UNTO THEM"
LIES!
IT IS THE TRUTH, ANGEL.
YOU AND YOUR KIND -- GOD AND MAN -- YOU ARE ALL AN EXPERIMENT.
AN EXPERIMENT WHICH IS ABOUT TO ENTER ITS FINAL PHASE.

THAT WAS MY FIRST AND ONLY MEETING WITH THE CREATURE CALLED SHARPE.
I HAVE BEEN A PRISONER IN HIS DUNGEON FOR MONTHS NOW
AT LEAST, I BELIEVE IT HAS BEEN MONTHS THE PASSAGE OF TIME HAS CEASED TO HAVE ANY MEANING FOR ME.
I HAVE BEEN LEFT FOR DEAD... TO PONDER THE MEMORY OF SHARPE'S LIES
OR WERE THEY LIES?
THAT DAY IN THE GARDEN -- WHEN THE STRANGER CAME
HE TOLD ME EVERYTHING I KNOW... IS A LIE.
A PART OF ME BELIEVES HE WAS MERELY ONE OF SHARPE'S AGENTS, BUT ANOTHER PART OF ME .
NO.
THE HEAVENLY FATHER IS THE ONLY POWER IN THE UNIVERSE
I CANNOT LOSE FAITH

YOU WILL NEED MORE THAN *FAITH*, AVENGELYNE.
HUH?! WHO --?
YOU. HOW COULD YOU KNOW WHAT I WAS THINKING?
IT IS *TIME*.
I KNEW YOU WORKED FOR SHARPE.
IT IS TIME YOU LEARNED THE *TRUTH*.
STAY AWAY FROM ME!
THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE

HE TOUCHES ME AND I SEE A VISION OF MYSELF

I LOOK AS I HAVE NEVER LOOKED BEFORE

I AM NO LONGER MERELY AN ANGEL SERVING THE HEAVENLY FATHER IN HIS ***WARHOST***.

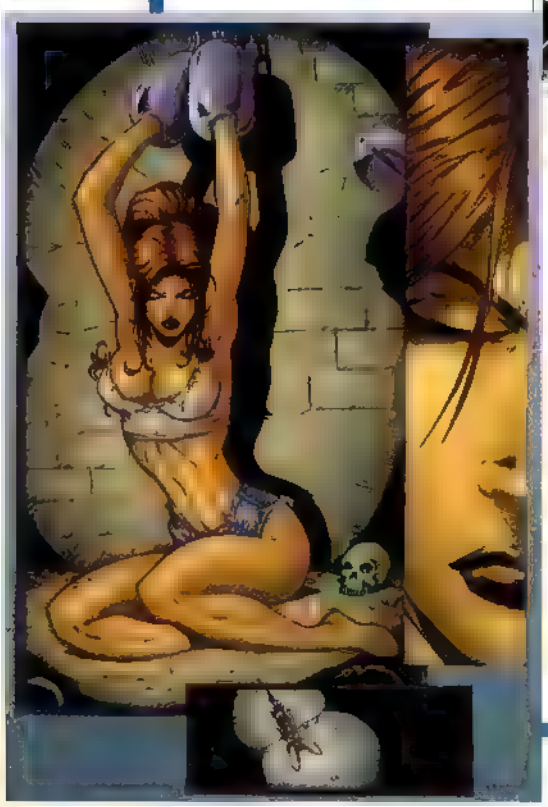
I HAVE BECOME.

.. A ***SAVIOR***.

THAT VISION .?
IT IS THE FUTURE. IT IS YOUR DESTINY.
YOU HAVE BEEN BOUND BY LIES, AVENGELYNE
BUT NO LONGER.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOU ARE HUMANITY'S SALVATION. YOU HAVE BEEN SHOWN THE WAY.
NOW THE REST IS UP TO YOU.

FROM THE JOURNAL OF FATHER PETER CLIFTON.
IT HAS BEEN ALMOST A YEAR SINCE AVENGELYNE DISAPPEARED.
I'VE SEARCHED EVERYWHERE FOR HER, BUT JUST WHEN I THINK I'M GETTING CLOSE TO FINDING HER, I HIT ANOTHER DEAD END.
NOW THE SEARCH HAS BROUGHT ME HERE.
SOMETHING HAS BROUGHT ME HERE.
SOMETHING... I CAN'T EXPLAIN.
IT'S AS IF THE LORD HIMSELF HAS WILLED ME TO SEEK OUT THIS MAKESHIFT NEVADA CHURCH
THIS IS WHERE I'LL FIND THE ANSWERS I SEEK.
ANSWERS ABOUT AVENGELYNE
WELCOME, PETER
...AND SO MUCH MORE

YOU ARE THE FIRST OF MY DISCIPLES TO ARRIVE
I KNOW YOUR JOURNEY HAS BEEN A LONG AND DIFFICULT ONE, BUT REST EASY, MY SON...
...IT IS FINISHED.
TO BE CONTINUED IN AVENGELYNE 2!



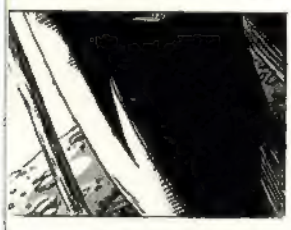
Most comic pages begin with a layout and Avengelyne is no different. Rob Liefeld supplied the layouts for this issue which were then handed off to artist extraordinaire Dan Fraga for him to pencil and ink. Awesome color is later applied, supplying mood , texture and lighting.

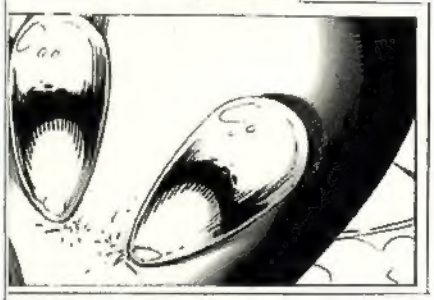
LAYOUT
LINE ART
COLOR

AVENGELYNE

BEHIND THE SCENES

Layouts can vary from artist to artist. Rob generally utilizes tiny thumbnail sketches that are only a few inches in size before inking them up with a marker and passing them along to the penciler.





LAYOUT
LINE ART
COLOR

AVENGELYNE

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SPECIAL BONUS PIN UP

JOHN STINSMAN
DAN FRAGA

STINKSMAN